SDUSD's Priorities Workforce Development Revenue

SUSTAINING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SCIENCE PROGRAM

What is the estimated budget for and benefits to our students associated with expanding professional development opportunities for elementary school teachers in science (including restoring our lead teacher program in inquiry based teaching), along with externships for high school science teachers?

The district's response to the BRTF recommendations was presented to the Board on April 6, 2010. The last page of the response document (attached) includes a budget that estimates the costs of 2 central office science resource teachers at $200,000 ($100,000 each/10-month/salary + benefits), and the cost of elementary site science liaisons (lead teachers) at $23,600 ($200 stipend for one teacher at each of the 118 elementary sites). This budget does NOT include the cost of subs, if they are needed while teachers attend professional development.

The benefits to our students would be tremendous. Additional teacher professional development in science at any level will certainly strengthen teacher content knowledge and delivery and will help keep our teachers abreast of new information, teaching strategies and current trends in scientific fields.

Externships for high school teachers at local scientific businesses or at local universities would incur cost of subs while teachers are out of the classroom. Costs would also be incurred for a position to administer and coordinate such externship programs, if not solely administered by an organization such as the San Diego Workshop Partnership.

EXPANDING OUR HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

What is the estimated budget for and benefits to our students taking the MET's Learning through Internships model to scale for high school students across the district?

What might a scaled up infrastructure for reaching out to and working with regional employers look like – with an entity like the Workforce Partnership housing such an infrastructure?

What are the major hurdles we as a District would need to take on in order to make internships part of the core academic high school program, as opposed to after school or summer internships?

Please see the attached DRAFT document not intended for publication.

EXPANDING BROADBAND ACCESS FOR OUR STUDENTS

What is an estimated budget of a City wide broadband network that would reach all of our students' homes and what would the benefits be?

What are we currently doing to get there, and what more would a concentrated City wide effort need to achieve?

Though it is difficult to provide a budget for the concept with any level of accuracy at this point, the current cost model and what the impact would be if the FCC changes some rules that regulate erate funding is provided here:

Costs based on the traditional service provider model:
In San Diego, home broadband can range from $19.00 - $50.00 per month with many plans limiting the amount of data that can be downloaded in a month. Broadband service options include cable modems, 3G wireless and DSL. Note: Dial-up connectivity should not be considered broadband. These numbers often skew the data on who actually has broadband access.

If broadband were provided to all 6th through 12th graders (approximately 70,000 students) using the traditional service provider model listed above, it would cost the district approximately $1.75M per month or $21M annually.

Pilot schools:
Currently, two SDUSD schools (Innovation and Millennial Tech) are piloting the i21 school-to-home component with 3G wireless access to all students. Lessons learned about what it takes to build the culture around digital access anytime anywhere will be used to guide other i21 schools who may want to make the shift to a school-to-home model in years three and four of the program.

Issue:
It is estimated that as many as 42% of our students lack access to a computer with high-speed Internet at home. Left unchecked, we are at risk of creating an even greater achievement gap by widening the digital divide. As public education looks towards a digital future, we need to ensure every student is given the same opportunities.

Benefits of home access:

- Naturally extends the school day by creating an opportunity for learning 24/7
- Provides access to dynamic digital content including live textbooks, educational video and print libraries

- Access to technology both at school and at home allows teachers to customize learning opportunities and individualize instruction that targets the unique needs of each student
- By 2013, over 51% of high school students will take at least one course online. Increasingly, studies suggest that online learning is meeting the specific needs of a range of students from those who need extra help and credit recovery to those that want to take advanced placement and college-level courses at times that best fit their needs
- Home access also creates a window into the classroom for parents and other family members to become more involved in their children's learning

Are E-Rate and CTF discounts an option:
The federal E-Rate program provides the district a 73% discount on "wireless Internet service for portable electronic devices" i.e. Netbooks with built-in broadband. The California Teleconnect Fund provides an additional 13.5% discount. However, the services are limited to use on school campuses only and must be prorated for the portion of the time the student is off campus.

SDUSD is strongly advocating that the FCC change the E-Rate "no access beyond the gate" rules to allow fully subsidize broadband access for students at home. This year, the FCC is considering such changes and is expected to announce their position by mid-October for the 2011-12 funding year. If the change goes into effect, the district would be eligible for an 86% discount on the traditional service outlined above. Essentially, the cost to the district would be approximately $2.8M annually to provide all 6^{th} – 12^{th} grade students with 3G wireless Internet access. Opponents to this change state that it would break the fund or be misused and that there is no way to ensure the safety of students online. While there are answers to some of these questions, these are the very just some of the reasons to consider developing a city-wide network that serves not only students, but the entire community.

SDUSD could be a significant partner in developing a city-wide network. We have over 200 properties located through the city that are connected with a fiber backbone. SDUSD schools could be the hub for connecting points of a city-wide WiMax (High Speed Wireless) network that could serve the homes and surrounding public areas in the communities.

Broadband facts:
Low Income:
- Americans living in households whose annual income is $20,000 or less have a 35% broadband adoption

Upper-income:
- Households with incomes over $75,000 have an 85% broadband adoption

African-Americans:
- 46% of African-Americans have broadband at home

Latinos:

- 37% of non- or limited- English speaking Latinos have broadband or dial-up Internet connections

The numbers outlined above emphasize the gap that many of our community members face when it comes to accessing digital resources via the Internet.

Besides providing equitable access to a safe network for students, the city-wide network would need to serve all members of the community with a focus of connecting families with limited means to resources essential to participate in today's digital world.